

[4 May, 2007]

RAJYA SABHA

New rail link between Bhubaneswar and Delhi

3315. SHRI B.J. PANDA:

MS. PRAMILA BOHIDAR:

Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether it is proposed to open new rail link between Bhubaneswar and Delhi—a shorter connectivity *via* Keonjhar;

(b) how far this would help the industrial sector; and

(c) what is the time-frame within which the proposed new line would be completed and put into operation?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) to (c) A new rail line between Daitari and Banspani (*via* Keonjhar) has been completed and commissioned to goods traffic on 15.02.2007. The line is mainly intended to fulfil the traffic demands of the upcoming steel plants and industries situated in the nearby areas.

Refund rules

3316. SHRI SAN JAY RAUT: Will the Minister of RAILWAYS be pleased to state:

(a) whether the National Consumer Commission has advised his Ministry for making refund rules user-friendly and simple;

(b) if so, Government's response thereto;

(c) how much refund amount is not paid to the rail passengers since last three years;

(d) what are the reasons behind this refund amount unclaimed; and

(e) the details of steps taken or proposed to be taken to simplify the present rules for getting refund amount to rail passengers?

THE MINISTER OF STATE IN THE MINISTRY OF RAILWAYS (SHRI R. VELU): (a) No, Sir.

(b) and (d) Do not arise.

(c) No separate date is maintained.